

THEATER PANIC.

Awful Scenes in a Baltimore Play House.

Result of a False Alarm of Fire—Twenty-four Persons Crushed to Death and Many Others Injured—Building Packed Full.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 28.—In a senseless panic caused by a defective gas burner and a foolish cry of fire, at the old Front Street theater, last night, 24 people were killed, two fatally injured and ten more seriously hurt. Up to one o'clock this morning, but four of the dead had been identified. Almost all the victims are of Polish nationality and Hebrew extraction, and many of the injured were taken to their homes by friends, rendering it almost impossible to get a complete list at this time.

The theater, which is probably the oldest in the city, was filled from pit to dome with people who had assembled to listen to Hebrew opera, which has been given in the old house twice a week for the past month. The ticket office receipts show that over 2,700 tickets had been sold when, at eight o'clock, the sale of seats was stopped because there were no more left. General admission tickets were sold, however, after this, and it was supposed that there were at least 3,000 people within the walls when the curtain went up on the first act. As the capacity of the house is less than 2,500, the density of the crowd may be imagined.

Ten minutes after the curtain rose, one of the attendants went up to the second tier to light a gas jet which appeared to be extinguished. As he turned the cock and applied a match it was seen that there was no tip to the burner. The jet was well down toward the stage on the left side of the house, in plain view of the greater part of the audience, but as the glare from it showed against the wall, some one in the gallery shouted, "Fire! Fire! Fire!"

In an instant there was a mad scramble for the door, in which the whole audience took part. The vanguard of the terror-stricken multitude reached the entrance on Front street, pushed on by the howling, shrieking mob behind them. There those in the foremost rank were compelled to turn to the right and to the left to reach the double entrance way, built in the form of a storm door. Passing through these doors, they reached a flight of steps, leading from each door, downward to a landing, from whence a broad stairway of moderate height would have carried them into the street and to safety. The steps leading from the doorways are but about five feet high, but the landing at their base is narrow. Down these the frightened people hustled themselves in the frightful struggle to reach the open air, and to escape the certain death they thought was behind them.

As the crowds from the two doors, one on the right, and the other on the left, reached the landing, they met. There was a brief struggle, and then some one lost his or her footing and fell. In a moment the crowd, pushed with irresistible force from the rear, crowded upon the prostrate form, and began, in turn, to stumble, reel, and presently to fall prone upon the floor under the myriads of feet coming like a herd of frightened buffalo from behind.

In less time than it takes to tell it, the landing was packed 20 or 30 deep with the panic-stricken multitude, and the hundreds behind them were struggling over them to reach the street. The tumult attracted an immense crowd from the outside, many of whom tried to gain entrance to the theater, thus adding to the confusion. A dozen policemen, also attracted by the shrieks of the frightened crowd, hurried to the scene, and, using their clubs on those on the outside, pushed through the door and to the writhing mass on the landing. When the mass on the landing had been cleared, the frightened mob on the inside were quieted down sufficiently to enable the police to clear the theater. Then it was found that there had been no danger and that not a soul would have been injured had the audience not remained seated.

AN EXPLOSION.

Four Tons of Giant Powder Ignited Near Romeo, Ill.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—What was believed to be another earthquake shook Chicago at four o'clock yesterday morning and made the country tremble for miles around. It came not in the low, rumbling manner in which earthquakes usually occur, but with a great boom. The shock was caused by the explosion of four tons of giant powder said to have been accidentally ignited near the little town of Romeo, on the new drainage canal, in course of construction. Throughout an area of 50 miles, from Wankee, Ill., on the north to Rockford, Ill., on the south, and from Kankakee, Ill., on the west to Michigan City, Ind., on the east, the shock was felt. At all these places the explosion was thought to be local, and anxious inquiries were sent in all directions.

No one was killed. The explosion occurred in the powder house near Romeo and about 800 feet from the canal. In Chicago windows rattled and buildings seemed to rock. Probably 1,000,000 people were awakened by the shock.

A Train Wrecked.

ANDERSON, Ind., Dec. 28.—North bound fast freight No. 60, on the Big Four, was wrecked at Milford junction, north of this city. It was going at a fast rate, when the fifth car, heavily loaded with merchandise, broke down. The engine had just gone on the bridge, and the car dropped and became firmly fastened in the trestle work. The next ten cars telescoped and rolled down the steep bank, breaking through the fences and landing in the river at the bottom. Merchandise was scattered everywhere, and all was damaged by the rain and snow which followed.

BRUTAL LYNCHING.

A Woman and Her Paramour Burned to Death in Kentucky.

LEBANON, Ky., Dec. 20.—Within two miles of this city last night a relentless mob burned to death a woman who was in a delicate condition and riddled with bullets her gray-haired paramour. The blackened and disfigured corpses of the victims—Mrs. Thomas West and William Deveres—were found in the ruins of the woman's home yesterday by the 14-year-old daughter of the murdered man.

The affair was the outgrowth of the old story of faithless wife and vengeful husband. Several months ago Deveres, a middle-aged widower, was accused by Thomas West, a prosperous farmer, of intimacy with Mrs. West. Quarrel followed quarrel throughout the fall, until West instituted divorce proceedings and declared Deveres must die. The men met at Lebanon and West snapped his revolver, which missed fire, and Deveres killed him on the spot. On the plea of self-defense the murderer secured bail and scandalized the neighborhood by immediately taking his two daughters and moving into West's house. The relatives of the murdered husband swore vengeance and Saturday night it came. Close to 10 o'clock a band of men rode up to the West homestead and demanded admittance. "Tom West is dead. Now it's your turn," the spokesman called, and Deveres and the woman awoke to find their house surrounded. Mrs. West rushed to a darkened window and began a wild, hysterical plea for mercy. A dozen bullets answered her cries and the demand for immediate surrender was repeated. Deveres, too, asked for a hearing, but his request was greeted with a shower of shots.

The little girl came out to plead with the mob but her appeals were unheeded. The house was fired and the man and woman burned to death.

GREAT SILVER LEAGUE.

Consolidation of Several Bimetallic Organizations—Headquarters in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—For some time past negotiations have been pending for a complete consolidation of the American Bimetallic league, National Silver committee, the three principal silver organizations in the United States, representing all sections of the country. These negotiations have culminated in an agreement by the representatives of the respective organizations by which consolidation has been substantially perfected. Nothing now remains to be done but a ratification by the executive committee of these organizations, each acting separately, which will speedily follow. The consolidated association will be known as the American Bimetallic union. Its principal office and general headquarters will be in Chicago at 134 Monroe street, in the offices occupied by the National Bimetallic union, with branch offices in Washington, San Francisco and perhaps in other cities, both north and south. It is the purpose of the organization to press the campaign of education on behalf of bimetallicism with the utmost vigor in all parts of the country. A conference of prominent silver men will be held in Washington on January 22, when a plan of action will be outlined, which, it is said, will have an important bearing on political events next year.

PLAN TO ABSORB GREENBACKS

Representative Smith, of Michigan, Has a Bill Which Embraces a New Idea.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Representative Smith, of Michigan, has introduced in the house a bill embracing a new plan to absorb the greenback and treasury notes and release in their stead the gold held by banks as reserves. The bill has been submitted to Senator Sherman, Chairman Dingley, of the ways and means committee, and Comptroller Eckels, Mr. Smith says, and has been approved by them.

The principal change which Mr. Smith's plan proposes is the substitution of United States notes and treasury notes, which include the greenbacks, and demand paper for the present requirement of "lawful money" for reserves. This would withdraw the currency which now keeps in motion the "endless chain" and release the gold in its stead. Mr. Smith says that according to the last report of the comptroller of the currency there was in the banks individual deposits, United States deposits and deposits of the United States disbursing officers the sum of \$1,715,194,860—an amount approximating the reserve required. He estimates that \$350,000,000 of treasury notes and United States notes would be immediately taken up and held by the banks under his plan.

TWO BIG ROBBERIES.

Diamond Thieves Get About \$75,000 From Two New York Residences.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—In addition to the robbery of \$65,000 worth of diamonds and jewelry from the Madison square mansion of I. Townsend Burden Friday night, it now transpires that another robbery, similar in its mode of execution, was committed the same evening in the house of Mrs. Francis N. Barnes, at 239 Central Park West, at about the same hour at which the Burden house was robbed. The loss in the case of Mrs. Barnes, however, was considerably less than that of the Burden's, aggregating not more than \$10,000.

INTERESTING TO PENSIONERS.

A United States Court Says That a Pension Check Is Not Attachable.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Dec. 30.—Judge John Jackson, of the United States circuit court, yesterday released Benjamin F. Morgan, a United States pensioner. Morgan had given his pension certificates as security for a store account. When the pension check came he refused to pay the bill and was arrested for obtaining money under false pretenses. The court held that no pension money could be attached, levied on or in any way made subject to debt, and ordered that Morgan be released at once.

SENATE COMMITTEES.

How They Stand on the Reorganization of the Upper House of Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The democratic steering committee of the senate, having completed its assignment, the committees as announced in the senate to-day are as follows:

Appropriations—Allison, chairman; Hale, Culom, Teller, Gray, Pettigrew, Perkins, Brice, Faulkner, democrats.
Finance—Morrill, chairman; Sherman, republican; Jones of Nevada, populist; Allison, Aldrich, Platt, Wolcott, republicans; Voorhees, Harris, Vest, Jones of Arkansas, White, Walcott, democrats.

Foreign relations—Sherman, chairman; Frye, Davis, Cameron, Tullien, Lodge, republicans; Morgan, Gray, Turpin, Daniel, Mills, democrats.
Judiciary—Hoar, chairman; Teller, Platt, Mitchell of Oregon, Davis, Clark, Thurston, republicans; Pugh, George, Vilas, Hill, Lindsay, Daniels, democrats.

Commerce—Frye, chairman; Jones of Nevada, populist; McMillan, Squire, Elkins, Nelson, McBride, republicans; Vest, Gorman, White, Murphy, Berry, Pasco, Caffery, democrats.
Interstate commerce—Cullom, chairman; Chandler, Wolcott, Aldrich, Carter, Gear, republicans; Gorman, Brice, Lindsay, Smith, Chilton, democrats.

Military affairs—Hawley, chairman; Proctor, Shoup, republicans; Stewart, populist; Mantle, Wilson, republicans; Allen, populist; Jones of Arkansas, Morgan, Roach, Blanchard, Chilton, democrats.
Naval affairs—Cameron, chairman; Hale, Perkins, McMillan, Chandler, Dubois, republicans; Wilson, Gibson, Smith, Bacon, Tillman, democrats.

Rules—Aldrich, chairman; Hoar, Mitchell of Oregon, Teller, republicans; Blackburn, Harris, Gorman, democrats.

Private lands—Mitchell of Oregon, chairman; Hoar, Chandler, Burrows, Pritchard, republicans; Gray, Pugh, Turpin, Palmer, democrats.

Public lands—Dubois, chairman; Pettigrew, Hansbrough, Wilson, Carter, McBride, republicans; Allen, populist; Berry, Pasco, Vilas, Tillman, democrats.

Indian affairs—Pettigrew, chairman; Platt, Shoup, republicans; Stewart, populist; Mantle, Wilson, republicans; Allen, populist; Jones of Arkansas, Morgan, Roach, Blanchard, Chilton, democrats.

Claims—Teller, chairman; Mitchell of Oregon, republican; Stewart, populist; Mantle, Wilson, republicans; Allen, populist; Jones of Arkansas, Morgan, Roach, Blanchard, Chilton, democrats.

Coast defense—Squire, republican; Hawley, Proctor, Burrows, McBride, republicans; Butler, populist; Gordon, Irb, Mills, White, Smith, democrats.

Pacific railroad—Gear, republican, chairman; Stewart, populist; Davis, Wolcott, Frye, republicans; Brice, Morgan, Faulkner, Murphy, democrats.

Pension—Gallinger, chairman; Shoup, republicans; Peffer, populist; Hansbrough, Hawley, Lodge, Baker, republicans; Palmer, Brice, Vilas, Mitchell of Oregon, Lindsay, Roach, democrats.

Post office and post roads—Wolcott, chairman; Mitchell of Oregon, Chandler, Burrows, Carter, republicans; Butler, populist; Vilas, Irb, republican; Jones of Arkansas, Roach, democrats.

Agriculture and forestry—Proctor, chairman; Hansbrough, Warren, Gear, republicans; Butler, populist; George, Bate, Roach, Irb, democrats.

Printing—Hale, chairman; Hansbrough, republicans; Gorman, democrat.

On private land claims—Harris, chairman; Pasco, Berry, Turpin, democrats; Hale, Platt, Baker, republicans.

Civil service and retrenchment—Pritchard, chairman; Lodge, Morrill, Dubois, Elkins, republicans; Gordon, Irb, Walcott, Chilton, democrats.

Immigration—Lodge, chairman; Chandler, Sewell, republicans; Peffer, populist; Nelson, republican; Hill, Voorhees, Faulkner, Harris, Gibson, democrats.

Irrigation and reclamation of arid lands—Warren, republican, chairman; Peffer, populist; Stewart, populist; Thurston, republican; Peffer, populist; White, Jones of Arkansas, Roach, democrats.

Mines and mining—Stewart, populist, chairman; Pettigrew, Wilson, Mantle, Warren, republicans; Bate, Call, Mills, Tillman, democrats.

Railroads—Clark, chairman; Gallinger, Gear, Elkins, Nelson, Thurston, republicans; Berry, Gordon, Palmer, Blackburn, Blanchard, democrats.

Indian depredations—Wilson, republican, chairman; Kyle, populist; Shoup, Sewell, Mantle, McBride, republicans; Lindsay, Faulkner, Carter, democrats.

On organization, conduct and expenditures of the executive department—Butler, populist, chairman; Dubois, Lodge, Wilson, Wetmore, republicans; Smith, Cockrell, Hill, Caffery, democrats.

On epidemic diseases—Vest, chairman; Harris, Irb, democrats; Jones of Nevada, populist; Gallinger, Quay, republicans; Butler, populist.

Nicaragua canal and Nicaragua claims—Morgan, chairman; Palmer, Martin, democrats; Mitchell of Oregon, Hawley, Squire, Sewell, republicans.

Geological survey—Elkins, chairman; Wolcott, republicans; Walcott, Mills, democrats; Allison, republican.

National banks—Mantle, chairman; Dubois, Burrows, republicans; Mitchell of Wisconsin, Chilton, democrats.

Forest reservations and protection of game—Allison, republican, chairman; Kyle, populist; Teller, Mantle, republicans; Morgan, Roach, Tillman, democrats.

Corporations organized in the District of Columbia—Jones of Arkansas, chairman; Gorman, democrats; Aldrich, Hoar, McMillan, republicans.

To investigate trespassers on Indian lands—Baker, chairman; Carter, republicans; Roach, democrat.

Public buildings and grounds—Quay, chairman; Morrill, Squire, Mantle, Warren, Gear, republicans; Vest, Daniel, Gordon, Blanchard, Murphy, democrats.

To audit and control the contingent expenses of the senate—Jones of Nevada, populist, chairman; Gallinger, republican; Jones of Arkansas, democrat.

Census—Chandler, chairman; Hale, Allison, Culom, Pettigrew, republicans; Turpin, Berry, White, Murphy, democrats.

District of Columbia—McMillan, chairman; Gallinger, Hansbrough, Proctor, Pritchard, Baker, Wetmore, republicans; Harris, Faulkner, Gibson, Smith, Martin, Bacon, democrats.

Education and labor—Shoup, chairman, republican; Kyle, populist; Perkins, Mantle, Clark, republicans; George, Caffery, Murphy, Lindsay, democrats.

On encroaching bills—Cockrell, chairman, democrat; Allison, Baker, republicans; Enrolled bills—Sewell, chairman; Dubois, republicans; Caffery, democrat.

Territories—Davis, chairman; Shoup, Squire, Sewell, republican; Blair, republican; Hill, Blackburn, Call, Bate, White, democrats.

Patents—Platt, chairman; Pritchard, Clark, Wetmore, republicans; Call, Mills, Berry, democrats.

Libraries—Hansbrough, chairman; Wetmore, republican; Voorhees, democrat.

Manufactures—Wetmore, chairman; Cameron, Squires, republicans; Gibson, Smith, democrats.

MINOR COMMITTEES.
Fisheries—Perkins, chairman; Proctor, Frye, Wilson, republicans; Butler, populist; Call, Gibson, Hill, Mitchell, of Wisconsin, democrats.

Improvement Mississippi river—Nease, chairman; Gear, Baker, Carter, republicans; Blanchard, Bate, Palmer, democrats.

Relations with Canada—Carter, chairman; Hoar, Hale, Pettigrew, Perkins, republicans; Murphy, Pugh, Mitchell of Wisconsin, Tillman, democrats.

Revision of the laws of the United States—Burrows, chairman; Pritchard, Thurston, republicans; Daniel, Call, democrats.

Revolutionary claims—Pugh, chairman; Bacon, Bates, democrats; Cameron, Aldrich, republicans.

To examine several branches of civil service—Peffer, populist, chairman; Hoar, Gallinger, republicans; Gray, Vilas, democrats.

EXPLAINING MATTERS.

Report of the Ways and Means Committee on the Tariff and Bond Bills.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Chairman Dingley, of the ways and means committee, yesterday reported to the house the tariff and bond bills agreed on by the majority of the committee. He said:

The committee on ways and means, to whom was referred so much of the president's annual message and so much of the annual report of the secretary of the treasury as regards to the revenue and the condition of the treasury, and also the president's special message presenting the urgency of immediate action by congress in a direction calculated to bring relief, report that the committee appreciate the seriousness of the situation and the importance of prompt remedies so far as congress can give them. Your committee regard the chronic deficiency of revenue for the past two years and a half as the most potent cause of the difficulties which the treasury has encountered and an important factor in the creation and promotion of the financial distress which has paralyzed business and dangerously shaken confidence, even in the financial operations of the government. It is impossible for a government to have continuous deficiency of revenue for 2½ years without affecting its financial standing as it is for an individual. It is impossible also for a government to continue in this condition without casting a shadow of doubt and discouragement over all business operations within its borders.

The serious fact which we are called upon to confront is that in the two and a half years that have elapsed since July 1, 1893, this government has had an insufficiency of revenue to meet current expenditures amounting in the aggregate to about \$133,000,000. And even in the first half of the present fiscal year, the deficiency will reach about \$20,000,000 and about \$30,000,000 in the present month.

It is evident that so long as there is insufficient revenue this performance will go on, and bond sale after bond sale will be required. It is also evident that if there had been a satisfactory revenue these redeemed legal tender notes would not have been paid out at once, and there would have been so much the less opportunity to draw gold from the treasury.

Continuing Mr. Dingley said: In response to the urgent call of the president, your committee has felt impelled to act with all possible dispatch. Two facts have led your committee to look to an increase of customs duties as the most appropriate source of additional revenue. They are, first, the fact that we are already raising a disproportionate amount from internal revenue, which has always been regarded as a war resort; indeed, Jefferson told the ground that excise taxes should not be resorted to by the federal government as a source of revenue in time of peace, and the democratic national convention maintained the same doctrine in 1848.

And, secondly, the fact that, by increasing customs duties on imported articles, which we consume and ought to produce or make at home, for revenue purposes, we can at the same time incidentally encourage stricken industries and industries in our favor. The balance of trade which has been so heavily against us all through this calendar year, and which has caused a demand for gold for export which our treasury has been called to supply. For, as the balance of trade is against us on account of excessive imports, we must export gold, or what is the same thing, promises to pay gold to pay for the excess of imports over exports.

The report after analyzing the tariff bill proceeds to the subject of a bond issue. Upon this matter the committee declares that the authority asked for by the secretary of the treasury to issue bonds at a lower rate and for a shorter term than those now authorized should be granted.

FIGHTING MOONSHINERS.

Desperate Battle in the Mountains of Kentucky—Whisky Destroyed.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 27.—News of a terrible battle between revenue officials and moonshiners in the Cumberland mountains has just reached here. Several days ago a number of revenue men under charge of the famous "Kid" Greer invaded Letcher county in quest of illicit stills and were informed that the moonshiners of that section had been apprised of their coming and were lying in wait for them on the Cumberland river. Greer strengthened his force, arming each man with a Winchester, a needle gun and two revolvers. They were approaching the vicinity of the moonshiners with much precaution, when they were surprised by the moonshiners, who were hid behind a high embankment. Greer received a bullet in his hip and another in his shoulder, and the surprise was so complete that the revenue men were forced to beat a hasty retreat. They rallied and charged on the moonshiners from the rear of their fortifications, and after quite a fusillade the outlaws were routed. Jim Winfield, one of the moonshiners, was killed and David And, Sam Collier and Marion Brown were taken prisoners. The revenue men arrived at Prestonsburg yesterday, where they told their experience. Greer is not badly hurt. Several stills were cut in pieces and about 2,000 gallons of brandy and whisky destroyed.

DOOLIN REPENTANT.

The Notorious Territorial Outlaw Has Tired of His Life of Crime.

PERRY, Ok., Dec. 27.—Considerable excitement was created here when it was announced that Bill Doolin, formerly leader of the noted Dalton gang of outlaws, was in Perry yesterday and last night, and that his mission here was to make peace with the officers and give himself up, provided a sentence could be agreed on. It is said that Doolin was accompanied by Bill Carr, who is an escapee from Oklahoma City. Carr has a big reward hanging over him, and a newspaper says he is tired of an outlaw's life and wants to atone for all his misdeeds by working out a short term in the penitentiary. Doolin was leader of the Dalton gang for years, and is said to be one of the most desperate men that ever lived in Oklahoma.

No Separate Schools.

WINNIPEG, Man., Dec. 27.—The full extent of Manitoba's reply to the Dominion government on the separate schools question is made public to-day. The Manitoba government positively refuses the proposal to establish a system of separate schools in any form.

School for Military Instruction.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 27.—The government has decided at once to establish a school of military instruction in Montreal. Several informal delegations waited upon the authorities in this connection and they decided to accede to the demands.

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW.

The President's Financial Message Had a Bad Effect on Stocks.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: The fallures of the fourth quarter of the year 1893, not yet finished, cannot be definitely stated, but the aggregate of deferred liabilities for the year, while much smaller than in 1892, will vary but little from that of 1894. The year's aggregate of commercial liabilities will probably be about \$170,000,000 in manufacturing, and the aggregate of deferred liabilities for the year, while much smaller than in 1892, will vary but little from that of 1894.

The foreign and financial message of the president were followed by violent reaction in the stock market last Saturday, with grave fears of monetary trouble. The sudden panic shocked business in many departments and the industries cannot be expected to show signs of improvement until the New Year begins. Orders have for months been so much smaller than they were in the summer, when production was expanding and prices mounting rapidly, that new causes of uncertainty have the more influence.

In the great textile manufactures the usual holiday dullness is increased by a dearth of orders, though there is some accumulation of goods for the demand expected soon. In the woolens the market is extremely dull, soft woolen dress goods and ladies' cloths are a shade lower, and the average of quotations is about 1½ per cent. lower for the week. Some makers have gone below last year's quotations in securing orders.

The shoe and leather business does not improve and both leather and manufactured goods decline slightly, though speculation is again hoisting hides about ten per cent. for all in two weeks and for some kinds 25 per cent. Wheat and cotton were depressed by last week's panic and have had little time to recover. Wheat receipts continue enormous for the week of \$794,072 bushels against 1,712,908 last year and Atlantic exports, flour included, have been 7,523,990 bushels in four weeks of December against 7,763,590 last year. Russian and other supplies are moving freely, official estimates are wholly forgotten and the men who predicted \$1 wheat have disappeared. Cotton has remained at 8½ cents since last Saturday and enormous commercial and mail stocks here and abroad with a demand for goods much smaller than in September hinder an advance. The quantity which has come into sight is 30 per cent. less than last year to date, but slightly larger than in 1892, when the crop was 6,700,000 bales. Failures for the week have been \$22 in the United States against 34 last year and \$40 in Canada against 41 last year.

THE WATERS SUBSIDING.

A Story of the Destruction Wrought by the Floods in Missouri.

BAGNELL, Mo., Dec. 28.—The waters of the Osage have begun slowly to subside and the havoc played by the sudden rise begins to manifest itself. Thousands of railroad ties, thousands of bushels of corn and wheat, wagonloads of apples, miles of fence and acres of fodder and feed have disappeared before the mighty onrush of the floods. Houses, barns and granaries by the hundreds have been swept away; cattle, horses and hogs have been drowned and their carcasses line the hills, against which the backwaters beat. Houses and stores all along the Osage valley are filled yet with water, mud and the wreckage of the waves, and woe and desolation appear on all sides. At Tusculumbia, the county seat, every house in town is filled with water and the loss will be immense. A correct estimate of the losses suffered throughout this section cannot be estimated yet, but will be large.

MR. BAYARD'S CASE.

The House Resolutions of Barrett and McCall Will Be Reported in a Modified Form.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The house committee on foreign affairs held a meeting and considered the Barrett and McCall resolutions relative to the speeches of Amassad Bayard. The committee decided to report the McCall resolution in a modified form. As agreed on it calls upon the president for information as to the alleged utterances of Mr. Bayard and the correspondence on the subject. The resolution has been very much tamed down and made mild in comparison to what it was when introduced. It was thought that in view of present circumstances it would be much better to make the resolution simply one of inquiry.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

It Is Proposed to Hold One in 1896 to Arrange All Boundary Disputes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Representative Barrett, of Massachusetts, introduced in the house a joint resolution authorizing the president to arrange a conference between the United States and nations possessing territory on the American continent for the settlement of boundary disputes. The president is to invite each nation to join the United States in a conference, to be held in Washington in 1896, to agree, if possible, upon all boundaries in dispute between such nations.

Physically Unable to Train.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Among sporting men here the report is current that James J. Corbett, the erstwhile champion pugilist, has good reason for quitting the prize ring. It is said that he is physically unable to undergo a severe course of training, and that should he re-enter the ring he would be a mark for any first-class heavyweight. According to a friend of Corbett, the big fellow is going the same road traveled by poor Jack Dempsey.

Now It Is American Wheat.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 28.—Italian Vice Consul Jerome Fedele received a communication from the minister of the interior of the kingdom of Italy complaining about the spoiled and damaged condition of grain received from this country at ports and warehouses. After the first of the year no grain shipped from this country will be received into Italy, unless it be accompanied by a certificate of its good condition and dryness.

No More English Loans at Present.

DALLAS, Tex., Dec. 28.—The English loan companies doing business in Dallas, and representing hundreds of millions of dollars have cabled their agents to discontinue loaning money in Texas. The fear of war with the United States is said to be the cause.

Want a Half Million for Armenian Relief.

BOSTON, Dec. 28.—Representative Bizzen has decided to take immediate steps toward raising \$500,000 in New England to aid the National Red Cross society in its Armenian relief work. A committee headed by C. H. Taylor will issue the appeal.

EVOLUTION OF THE ARROW.

Anthropologist Explains How They First Came to Be Made.

Frank H. Cushing, of Washington, who lived many years among the Zuni Indians, addressed the Section of Anthropology of the American association at its recent Springfield meeting, upon "The Arrow." The following is an abstract of the lecture: "He believes the arrow to have been perfected long before the bow, and to be in fact one of the most primitive of weapons, dating back to the discovery of the art of chipping flints. He related his own discovery of this art when a boy, under the stimulus of a plowed-up arrowhead, and at a time when modern students were ignorant of the manner in which this was done by aboriginal races. The finer flaking and finishing with a flat piece of bone or horn was with him an accidental discovery, as he believes it to have been with primitive peoples. He described the selection of material by the Indians, preferably from pebbles in drift, and the careful burying of the finished tips to preserve their temper and to recover them from their rough handling, as the Zunis say. The shafts were always worked out from butt to tip, that they might fly in the right direction. If not from green material, they were well soaked before being straightened by passing them through a hole of proper size in a wooden block. Then the shafts were grooved down to the feathers, with the tooth of a panther if intended for war, but with that of an elk or beaver if for the chase. Finally they were notched for the cord, and 'footed' with a plug of wood to prevent splitting on the cord when drawn. The three feathers, two lateral 'wings,' and a third called the 'tail,' were attached by chewed sinews wound about the shaft. After a bundle had been thus completed they were dropped together upon the ground to determine their respective regions. Accordingly as they pointed, they were separated into groups for the four points of the compass, the members of each group being indicated by the peculiar cutting of the 'tail' feather. Those of the north and west groups were destined for war, and those of the south and east for hunting, and they were fitted with heads corresponding to these uses. The speaker traced the gradual steps in the progress of the race in flaking flints and attaching them to shafts. He thinks that the feathers were first attached through a fetishistic belief in their power to aid the flight of the arrow, and that the discovery of their real serviceableness in this respect when attached in a definite way at the base of the shaft